

The Forgotten Monument

By Nathan Rigione

Boy Scout of Troop 95

Westford, MA



(Abbot Worsted Building)

The story of the Memorial Field Monument at Abbot Elementary school begins with one man, John W. Abbot. Founder of the famed Abbot Worsted Company in Westford he recruited John W. P. Abbot and Charles G. Sargent, special partners, and began the Abbot Worsted Company.

HAND-BOOK OF ITS BUSINESS. 157

CALVERT'S IMPROVED PATENT COTTON WILLOW AND Cleaning Machine.



To Cotton Manufacturers.

GENTLEMEN:

The undersigned would respectfully call your attention to our Improved CALVERT'S WILLOW. We deem it unnecessary to eulogize the many merits it possesses over all other kinds of Cotton Openers now before the public, but choose to let the Machine stand upon its own merits. Our Improved Machines may be seen at the Merrimack and Appiston Manufacturing Companies, Lowell; at C. W. Sayles, Esquire's Mill, North Wrentham, Mass.; and at W. Lenoir & Brothers, Lenore, Tennessee.

We challenge the manufacturing public to produce a Machine equal to ours for Opening and Cleansing Cotton from leaf, dirt, and seeds, or other foreign substances.

The Original Calvert Willows have been long and favorably known to most of the Cotton Manufacturers of this country, and may be found in most of the large Manufacturing Establishments.

Persons in want of Cotton Cleansing Machines are respectfully solicited to examine our Improved Machine before purchasing elsewhere.

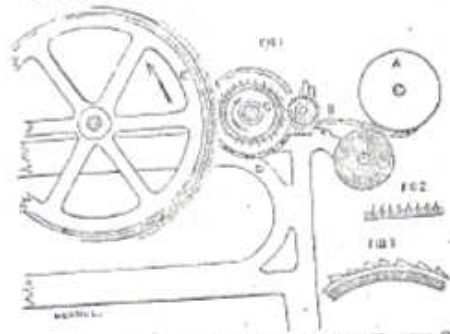
MANUFACTURED BY

CALVERT & SARGENT, GRANITEVILLE, MASS.

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HAND-BOOK OF ITS BUSINESS. 158

TO COTTON MANUFACTURERS.



We beg leave to call your attention to a new METALLIC TOOTHED CYLINDER, to be used with Cotton Cards, as a Licker-in, in connection with the shed, feed-rolls, and screen shown in the drawing annexed. A few of the advantages over the old Licker-in consists in its durability, its great perfection in cleansing cotton from the dirt and leaf, its distributing the cotton more evenly over the Metal Cylinder, its making only one-half the amount of flyings, and in its requiring neither stopping, grinding, or any other attention. These Cylinders have been in use in some of the Lowell Mills during the past eight years, and are found to improve in sharpness and condition from the time of being put into use. This Licker-in can be applied to any Cotton Card without alterations, it being put in the same bearings as those in use.

These Manufacturers having Licker-in Cylinders made of iron, and have them clothed with Metallic clothing, and save the expense of new Cylinders; and so far as they have been in use, it is thought they will last twenty years, if not injured by accident.

We annex a few of the many flattering recommendations we have received from those using our Metallic Licker-in, and respectfully request those desirous of trying them, to examine them at work.

**CALVERT & SARGENT, Manufacturers,
GRANITEVILLE, MASS.**

Lansaster Mills, Clinton, July 30, 1856.

MESSERS. CALVERT & SARGENT,

Gents.—We have used "Calvert's Opener" for opening all our cotton, for eight years, with satisfaction.

We have used your Metallic Licker-in, for Cotton Card Machines, about eight months, and are so well pleased with their work, and with the condition in which they keep without grinding and other repairing, that we are substituting them for our card-clothed Licker-ins as fast as the latter need repair.

Yours respectfully,
FRANKLIN FORBES, Agent.

(Continued on page 161.)

Charles G. Sargent, a special partner of John W. Abbot and the Abbot Worsted Company, was a mechanic/inventor who repaired broken machinery within the mill and created new machines. (Seavey)



(Picture of Camel's Hair Yarn)



(Picture of Camels)

By 1916, "The Abbot Worsted Company was the largest manufacturer of carpet worsted yarns not only in this country, but also in the world. The total production was 4,616,826 pounds of worsted spun carpet yarns, 278,504 pounds of camels hair yarn. These yarns required the wool from 2,155,380 sheep and camels hair from 17,144 camels." (Welcome to Abbot- Employee Handbook Timeline Pg.17-19)



(Abbot Hall)

"As early as 1885 the corporation erected community houses at each of its mills, established a library, and has erected 250 dwelling houses in Forge Village, Graniteville, and Brookside, and its broad industrial relations policy includes the retention of physicians, nurses, dentists, the maintenance of a hospital, the gift of service buttons, the maintenance of a band, and two athletic fields, one at Forge Village and the other at Graniteville, sponsors baseball and soccer football teams, and provides Abbot Hall for entertainment and moving pictures." (Stone)



(Picture of the Memorial Plaque)

In the mid 1950's, the Memorial Field is dedicated by the Abbot Worsted Company in memory of those who lost their lives during World War II and the Korean War. The field is mainly used by the Abbot Worsted Company at the time as a place for their successful soccer team to practice and play games on.



When I discovered the monument in front of the Abbot Elementary School, the monument was surrounded by vegetation, had graffiti marks on it, and the monument was thought by many people to be just a large rock. Not many people knew that this was a war monument. So for my Eagle Project, I decided I would move the monument back up on the field and clean it up a bit.



First, the initial design was dug. The patio was designed in the shape of a trapezoid because when you look at a trapezoid from the sky it becomes a “v”. “V” standing for “Veterans”. The patio was then meticulously leveled and dug more to try to make the ground as level as possible for the monument





The Monument is then dug up from its location in front of the Abbot Elementary School, carried by a forklift up the street to Memorial Field, and placed in the new patio.



Monument ready to be moved up the street.



The monument is lowered into place



Sand and pavers put in and leveled.



Gravel placed down first to help with drainage.





The pavers are cut to the shape, with the posts dug for the granite benches.



The granite bench posts are placed in the holes and a few days later the bench tops are placed on them.





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Nathan Rigione with the completed patio.



(Cleaning of the Monument)



(Monument is Cleaned)

The Monument, after the patio's completion, is then given a good cleaning. It needed it after fifty years of sitting outside in the harsh New England Weather.

The Memorial Field Monument will be rededicated on the Memorial Field at the Abbot School on May 19, 2012.

The Monument will now be seen by many as the war monument it was built to be and is recognized by many.

Those 22 Men who died in defense of our country are not forgotten.

We salute you and your sacrifice.

--Nathan Rigione

All the Soldiers whose names are on the plaque

PVT. John L. Black- KIA June 4, 1953

PVT. Hubert Bolyea- KIA January 7, 1945

ELECT. Herbert Clark- KIA February 5, 1944

PFC. Butler Conant- KIA September 8, 1942

PFC. Raymond R. Connell- KIA June 13, 1944

ASN. Richard A. Connell- KIA February 25, 1944

S 1/C Gaston Cote- KIA November 20, 1944

Lieut. Herbert C. Davidson- KIA 1944

SGT. Roland W. Fecteau- KIA May 20, 1944

PFC. Hasbrouck Fletcher- KIA August 19, 1953

RT 1/C. Joseph W. Fletcher- KIA June 21, 1945

SGT. William R. Gower- KIA January 29, 1944

PVT. James E. Harrigan- KIA June 15, 1942

PFC. Frederick S. Healy- KIA July 27, 1944

S 1/C. Anthony Kostechko- KIA October 12, 1943

CPL. Robert G. Langley- KIA August 14, 1951

S 2/C. Emile Le Duc- KIA October 15, 1942

S-. Anselme J. Milot- KIA March 1, 1950

Lieut. Walter E. Parfitt- KIA May 20, 1944

Arthur T. Perkins- KIA October 6, 1944

S 2/C. Eugene J. Rioux- KIA September 11, 1943

CPL. Donald R. Phillips- KIA December 8, 1954

Abbot Worsted Company Timeline 1855-1950

1855. The Firm was established as a partnership in Graniteville under the name of Abbot Worsted Company by John W. Abbot, John W. P. Abbot and Charles G. Sargent, special partners, to manufacture fine worsted yarn braid and upholstery yarn, employing 20 hands
1857. Charles G. Sargent retired and Allen Cameron became an active partner.
1858. The Graniteville Mill burned down. Temporary operations were carried on at a mill in Norwich, Connecticut
1859. A new stone mill was built at Graniteville. Operations started in January 1859. First the Company manufactured carded woolen, later woolen and worsted carpet yarn and camels hair yarn for belting and pressing cloth.
1875. Abiel J. Abbot was admitted as a partner and the Firm name changed to Abbot and Company.
1879. Abbot and Company bought the buildings and water rights of the Forge Village Horse Nail Company in Forge Village and converted the buildings and machinery to the manufacture of carpeted worsted yarn.
1883. 200 people were on the payroll. The hours worked were from 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday and until 4 p.m. on Saturday, a total of 64 hours a week. The annual consumption of wool was 2,250,000 pounds. Sales averaged \$500,000 a year.
1887. A large brick mill was added to the original building at Forge Village.
1900. The Company was incorporated under the name of Abbot Worsted Company. Julian A. Cameron was President, John C. Abbot, Vice President and Abiel J. Abbot, Treasurer.
1916. Abiel J. Abbot retired as Treasurer and John C. Abbot was elected Treasurer, Edward M. Abbot, Vice President.
1916. The Abbot Worsted Company was the largest manufacturer of carpet worsted yarns not only in this country, but also in the world. The total production was 4,616,826 pounds of worsted spun carpet yarns, 278,504 pounds of camels hair yarn. These yarns required the wool from 2,155,380 sheep and camels hair from 17,144 camels.
1917. First started manufacture of hand knitting yarn for the Red Cross during World War 1.
1919. The Company purchased the Brookside Mill from George C. Moore and began to manufacture machine knitting yarn.
1923. The Company modernized the mills at Forge Village and Brookside and began to manufacture mohair yarns for automobile and furniture upholstery. In a few years the Company became the largest spinner of this type of yarn in the country.
1933. Began operations in the present mill at 200 Market Street, Lowell.
1934. Following the death of John C. Abbot, Julian A. Cameron was elected Chairman of the Board, Edward M. Abbot, President and General Manager, Hugh F. Leith, Treasurer.
1935. In 1935 a new process of curling yarn was developed in the Lowell mill. Curled yarn is used in women's wear and upholstery.
1940. Because of the War and Government requirements, the Company began to manufacture fine worsted top.
1941. The Abbot Worsted Company was the first and only company licensed to comb Top in bond for foreign countries. Our company was the main supplier of top for the Canadian Government and for them we combed about 5,000,000 pounds from 1941-1945.
1941. Reports show that we manufactured 20 per cent of all the hand knitting yarns made in this country.
- 1942- 1944. During the War the Company spun yarn for the Government orders that went into socks, gloves, and caps, alpaca and wool linings for Army Airforce, Navy and Marine Corp, sleeping bags, Red Cross yarn and Weaving yarn for Government serge.
1944. The Company became the largest spinners of worsted sales yarn in this country.
1946. At present for capacity operation the Company would employ 2200 people, with an annual production of about 9,750,000 pounds of top of 8,500,000 pounds of yarn.
1947. Hugh F. Leith retired as Treasurer and E. Kent Allen was elected as Treasurer.
1950. Hugh F. Leith was elected Chairman of the Board replacing Julian A. Cameron who died in 1949.
1950. At the present time the research activities of the Company are directed toward the development of new machinery such as "Pot Spinning." Considerable progress made last year has confirmed our opinion that Pot Spinning will be commercially practicable. A unit is being built and will be put into operation at our Lowell Mill. We are continually replacing old machinery with new in an effort to make quality yarn at lowest cost.

Bibliography

Pictures

Abbott Worsted Company Building

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Camels

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Camel Hair Yarn

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Timeline Pg.17-19

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Industrial Era grinds to

History of the Massachusetts Industry

By Orra L. Stone 1930 (small excerpt)